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E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: PHUM UNHCR BU

SUBJECT: BULGARIA NON-COMMITTAL BUT LEANING TOWARDS

WEDGWOOD CANDIDACY FOR UNHRC

REF: SECSTATE 130573

(SBU) We delivered reftel to MFA's Lili Vulchanova in the Human Rights and International Humanitarian Organizations Directorate on August 16. She said the GOB is still reviewing the candidates for the UN Human Rights Committee, but will give Ruth Wedgwood serious consideration. Wedgwood's impressive credentials and our continued support for her reelection make her a very strong candidate, according to Vulchanova. While she could not give us a definite answer, Vulchanova noted that in the past Bulgaria frequently voted for US-backed candidates. KARAGIANNIS